

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6553

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AFIN, NATO, US

SUBJECT: FY 1976 BUDGET PRESENTATION

FOR: IO/EX

REF: A. STATE 131212

B. USNATO 3601

1. CORRECTION: PARA. A.1 OF REF,B SHOULD READ \$10,582,000
INSTEAD OF THE \$10,817,000 WHICH INCLUDED US CONTRIBUTION OF
\$235,000 (DOD) FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT.

2. FOLLOWING INFORMATION COMPLETES RESPONSE TO REF. A:

A.7 PROPOSE AND BENEFITS (OF NATO) TO US:

THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE IS THE PRODUCT OF A HISTORICAL
CONVERGENCE OF INTEREST AMONG 15 WESTERN NATIONS. NATO'S CENTRAL
ROLE IN WESTERN DEFENSE AND CONSULTATION INDICATES THAT THIS
COMMONALITY OF INTEREST REMAINS STRONG. PRIMARY AMONG THESE SHARED
CONVICTIONS IS THE VIEW THAT NATO IS STILL NEEDED TO PROTECT THE
FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE WEST AND TO CONTAIN THE EXPANSION
OF SOVIET POLITICAL INFLUENCE AND CONTROL. WESTERN OBSERVERS
BELIEVE THAT THE EXISTENCE OF A STRONG NATO REMAINS THE BEST MEANS
FOR MAINTAINING TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND POLITICAL COHESION, AND
SHARING THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COSTS OF MAINTAINING AN
EFFECTIVE DEFENSE.

THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES WILL CONTINUE IN
FISCAL YEAR 1976: (A) CLOSE CONSULTATION IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC
COUNCIL, THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE, THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP,
UNCLASSIFIED

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THE SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE AND OTHER CONSULTATIVE BODIES WITHIN
NATO; (B) EXAMINATION OF ISSUES FOR POSSIBLE NEGOTIATION WITH THE
SOVIET UNION AND OTHER COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE; (C) ANALYSIS
OF PROCEDURES FOR EAST-WEST NEGOTIATIONS; (D) STUDIES OF POSSIBLE

MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS, ARMS CONTROL, AND CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES; (E) THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHALLENGES OF MODERN SOCIETY, ESTABLISHED IN RESPONSE TO A SUGGESTION BY THE PRESIDENT ON COMMON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.

OTHER IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES INCLUDE THE CONTINUING AND RAPID EXCHANGE OF INTELLIGENCE AND DATA, ACTIVITIES OF THE SCIENCE AND ECONOMIC COMMITTEES, AND THE NATO INFORMATION SERVICE WHICH PROVIDES A STEADY FLOW OF INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMS AND PURPOSES OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE.

B. FOR NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY

1. ASSESSMENT BUDGET (SEE FOOTNOTE) BF 39,609,311 BF
2. U.S. CONTRIBUTION (AT 24.2 PERCENT \$252,250
3. PURPOSE AND BENEFITS TO THE U.S.:

IN NOVEMBER 1954 THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF BRINGING ABOUT A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERS OF NATIONAL LEGISLATURES. AS A RESULT THE NORTH ATLANTIC PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE WAS ORGANIZED FOR THE PURPOSE, AS EXPRESSED IN PUBLIC LAW 689-84TH CONGRESS, OF DISCUSSION OF COMMON PROBLEMS IN THE INTEREST OF THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC AREA. IN 1966 THE NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION WAS CHANGED TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY. NATIONAL DELEGATIONS ARE COMPOSED SOLELY OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF RESPECTIVE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE ORGANIZATION, IN ADDITION TO MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS ON VARIOUS MATTERS TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL, HAVE BEEN VALUABLE IN PROMOTING CLOSER CONTACT BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL LEGISLATORS OF THE NATO COUNTRIES. THEY ARE ALSO HELPFUL IN STIMULATING GREATER KNOWLEDGE OF, AND INCREASED PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR, NATO AND THEREBY DEVELOPING GREATER UNITY WITHIN THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY. THIS AIM WAS ACKNOWLEDGED IN THE JUNE 1974 DECLARATION SIGNED BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND THE ALLIES, WHICH CALLS FOR "STRENGTHENING OF LINKS AMONG PARLIAMENTARIANS," AND "THE FREE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AMONG THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLES OF THE ALLIANCE."

4. THE INCREASE IS LARGELY ATTRIBUTABLE TO WAGE AND PRICE INCREASES BUT ALLOWS FOR SOME INCREASE IN ACTIVITIES RELATING TO UNCLASSIFIED

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THE ANNUAL SESSION AND OTHER MEETINGS (2.2 MILLION BF), AS WELL AS SEVERAL SPECIAL PROJECTS (7.65 MILLION BF) INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WASHINGTON OFFICE, RESEARCH WORK, EXCHANGES OF PARLIAMENTARY STAFF, AND PUBLICATION OF REPORTS.

5. (FOOTNOTE) THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS INDICATIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES AND SOME OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD SUPPORT THIS AMOUNTN BUT THAT OTHERS WOULD OPPOSE SUCH AN INCREASE. NO MORE PRECISE ESTIMATES CAN BE MADE UNTIL AFTER THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE CONSIDERS THE BUDGET AND DESIRABLE FUTURE ACTIVITIES.
RUMSFELD.

UNCLASSIFIED

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